

Progress Report on Key Indicators Graduation and Transfer Rates

The 2001 results are in for three crucial performance measures under Question 3 – “Are more students advancing through the system?”: graduation rates of bachelor’s degree students, numbers of community and technical college transfers, and average number of credit hours transferred. Progress has been made toward improving graduation rates; results from the student transfer indicators are mixed.

Results for Indicator 3.6 (six-year graduation rates of bachelor’s degree students) indicate significant improvement on this important measure. Graduation rates are up at seven state-supported universities. Systemwide, the graduation rate rose from 39.8 percent in 2001 to 44.1 percent in 2002. Six institutions – Eastern, Kentucky State, Morehead, Murray, Northern, and the University of Kentucky – exceeded their 2002 goals in 2001. See page 43 for details by institution.

Goals were established under Indicator 3.3 (number of community and technical college transfers) for both two-year and four-year institutions. Results for this indicator are mixed. The goal for two-year institutions is to increase the number of their students transferring to universities. The number of students transferring from Lexington Community College in 2001 increased, exceeding their 2002 goal, while the number of students transferring from the Kentucky Community and Technical College System decreased. For universities, the goal is to increase the number of students transferring from the KCTCS and LCC. Here, too, results are mixed, with rates rising at five institutions (Kentucky State, Murray, University of Kentucky, University of Louisville, and Western) and falling at three. See page 41 for details by institution.

Indicator 3.4 (average number of credit hours transferred) was established to ensure that students, while encouraged to transfer from two-year to four-year institutions, did not do so with fewer hours. The goal is for the number of credit hours transferred to rise or remain steady as the number of transfers rises. In 2001, the average number of credit hours transferred rose at both the KCTCS and LCC, suggesting good progress in this area.

The updated results presented here allow a more complete analysis of the progress under Question 3. Using the traffic light evaluation system introduced at the March council meeting, the light for Question 3 remains green, indicating good progress. See page 42 for results by institution.

To date, results are available for 17 of the 42 key indicators. Systemwide, there are 10 green lights, six yellow lights (indicating some progress) and one red light (no progress). Over the next several months, the council staff will continue to update key indicators as data become available.

In addition, the staff will begin to work with institutional representatives to establish goals for 2003 and beyond.

Staff preparation by Christina Whitfield

Key Indicators of Progress toward Postsecondary Reform
Question 3: Are more students advancing through the system ?

3.6 Six-Year Graduation Rates of Bachelor's Students

Institution	Actual				Goals				
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Eastern Kentucky University	26.8%	31.5%	30.0%	37.2%	32.0%	33.5%	35.5%	37.5%	40.0%
Kentucky State University	17.7%	31.3%	31.2%	33.5%	32.0%	33.0%	34.0%	35.0%	36.0%
Morehead State University	40.1%	44.0%	38.6%	45.6%	42.0%	43.0%	44.0%	45.0%	46.0%
Murray State University	38.5%	40.9%	46.3%	55.0%	47.7%	48.4%	49.0%	49.7%	50.4%
Northern Kentucky University	30.1%	32.3%	35.4%	40.5%	36.0%	36.5%	37.0%	37.5%	38.0%
University of Kentucky	50.8%	52.2%	55.3%	57.2%	56.4%	56.8%	57.4%	58.0%	58.6%
University of Louisville	29.9%	31.6%	30.8%	33.3%	34.7%	36.7%	38.6%	40.6%	42.6%
Western Kentucky University	39.1%	37.7%	41.5%	40.8%	41.6%	41.8%	42.0%	43.2%	44.4%



Key Indicators of Progress

toward

Postsecondary Reform in Kentucky

May 2002 - Progress Report
Available Results by Institution

	SYSTEM	EKU	KSU	MoSU	MuSU	NKU	UK	UL	WKU	KCTCS	LCC
3. Are more students advancing through the system?											
Persistence and Completion											
3. Number of community and technical college transfers	●										
Transfers in from KCTCS & LCC		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○	○
Transfers to any four-year institution		○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●
5. Average number of credit hours transferred*	●	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	○	●	●
Graduation											
6. Six-year graduation rates of bachelor's degree students	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	○

***Note:** The goal for this indicator is for the average number of credit hours transferred to rise or remain steady as the number of transfers to four-year institutions increases.

LEGEND

● Good Progress ● Some Progress ● No Progress ○ Does Not Apply